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WILLIAM H. JENKINS.**1846-1917.**

William H. Jenkins died suddenly while in performance of his duties as chief book-keeper at the Illinois State Reformatory, at Pontiac, which position he held for over nineteen years. He was engaged in counting the day's cash on Friday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, October 12th, 1917, when God's finger touched him and he slept.

The funeral was held at three o'clock Sunday afternoon from the First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Ross S. McCown, the pastor, conducting the services.

Mr. Jenkins was a native of Ohio, coming with his parents to Livingston County, Illinois, in 1859, when thirteen years of age. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, January 11th, 1846, was a son of Samuel R. and Mary Frederick Jenkins.

Mr. Jenkin's family is of Welch ancestry and came with William Penn to America, settling in Pennsylvania. He was reared on his father's homestead among the Ohio hills. After the manner of most farmer boys of that time he attended school in winter and helped on the farm in summer, he thus approached manhood. In the meantime occurred the outbreak of the rebellion. On December 30th, 1863, he enlisted in Company "C," 39th Illinois Infantry (Yates Phalanx), and for eighteen months he experienced the vicissitudes of a soldier's life. He met the enemy in many important engagements, among them Drewry's Bluff, Strawberry Plains, Darbytown Cross Roads and in various minor engagements and skirmishes. At Drewry's Bluff he was shot through the neck and shoulder. After three months' confinement in the hospital he joined his regiment and on October 13th, 1864, at Darbytown Cross Roads he was shot through the right leg above the knee, which necessitated amputation. He received his honorable discharge May 18th, 1865.

After spending a season on the farm he went to Chicago, took a course at Bryant and Stratton Business College. Returning to Pontiac, Illinois, he was appointed deputy County

Clerk, and remained in this office until 1876, when he was elected Circuit Clerk, which position he held four years and was then appointed deputy Circuit Clerk, serving in this office, and as deputy County Clerk, until 1889, when he moved with his family to Springfield, having been appointed by Secretary of State I. N. Pearson as Executive Clerk in his office, which he held during Governor Fifer's administration.

At the change in administration he took up his residence in Pontiac, and was appointed deputy County Treasurer, which position he filled until October 1st, 1898, when he received the appointment of chief book-keeper in the Illinois State Reformatory and continued in this office until the last moment of his life.

He leaves to mourn his death his wife, Bessie Jenkins, one son Charles L. and one granddaughter, Mary Frances Jenkins, three brothers and three sisters.

Mr. Jenkins was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church; T. Lyle Dickey Post No. 105, G. A. R., Pontiac Lodge, I. O. O. F. No. 262, and Lodge 1019, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. The organization which he best loved to serve was the 39th Regimental Association (Yates Phalanx) organized in 1880, of which he had the honor of being the first president and as secretary and treasurer for many years, published the proceedings in booklet form each year. His last work for this organization was to send out invitations to surviving members and arrange for the annual meeting October 17th, 1917, at Farmer City, Illinois, which occurred a few days after he passed away. At this meeting Comrade J. R. White, on behalf of the Association, paid a touching tribute to his clean, true life as a soldier, a friend and a brother. At the conclusion of this address the comrades of the thirty-ninth and honorary members of the Association were requested to stand while a quartet sang "The Vacant Chair," as the song ended a comrade softly sounded "Taps," the bed time and last bugle call for a soldier.

Captain Jenkins was a devoted member of the Illinois State Historical Society, and of the Lincoln Circuit Marking

Association. He wrote a valuable article giving some new and interesting history of his regiment, the Yates Phalanx, which he prepared for and read at the meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society at its annual meeting in May, 1914. This article is published in the transactions of the Society for that year.

A brief memorial address on the life and services of Captain Jenkins was read by the Secretary of the State Historical Society at the annual meeting of the Lincoln Circuit Marking Association held at Danville, Illinois.

IN MEMORIAM.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY T. LYLE DICKEY POST, No. 105, FOR
W. H. JENKINS.

WHEREAS, At a regular meeting of T. Lyle Dickey Post, No. 105, Department of Illinois, Grand Army of the Republic, a committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions on the death, character and services of our lamented comrade, William H. Jenkins.

WHEREAS, Our beloved comrade and esteemed fellow citizen, William H. Jenkins, has answered his last roll call here on earth and now stands before the Great Commander above.

WHEREAS, This sudden and sad event and the manner of his departure brings vividly to mind for our solemn reflection the frailty of earthly things, the brief tenure of human life and emphasizes our mutual dependence and obligations one to another as comrades, reflects the brief period of time allotted to his remaining comrades and makes manifest our duty to extend a helping hand and sincere condolence to his bereaved widow and family, and to honor our departed comrade by placing in the archives of our Post, in an enduring form, the record of his intense patriotism, heroism, good citizenship, sacrifices and invaluable services to this community and the nation.

WHEREAS, Comrade William H. Jenkins was born on January 11, 1846, in Miami County, Ohio, and died in Pontiac, Illinois, like a soldier on duty, on October 12, 1917, aged 71 years, 9 months and 1 day. Enlisted on December 30, 1863, was mustered into the United States service in Company C,

39th Illinois Infantry Volunteers (the Yates Phalanx) on January 15, 1864, and mustered out on May 18, 1865, because incapacitated for service on account of wounds received in battle.

For fifteen months he endured the hardships of a soldier's life in active service. He met the enemy in many important and minor engagements and skirmishes; was wounded in the throat and neck in the battle of Drewry's Bluff and in a short time left the hospital and joined his regiment. On October 13, at the battle of Darbytown Roads he was shot through the leg above the knee, which wound necessitated amputation and loss of his leg.

WHEREAS, "Billy" Jenkins has proven by his earthly career his true merit, that he was the soul of honor and good nature, that his record as soldier and citizen is worthy of emulation and should be a fond recollection and a sacred memory to his bereaved family, this Post, and this community, which by his distinguished services he honored by his presence.

RESOLVED, That the record of Comrade William H. Jenkins, as soldier and citizen is an honored one; that we mourn his loss, that he was literally shot out of the army, and we believe and declare that had Comrade Jenkins fought in every skirmish and battle in that terrible war from Manassas to Appomattox, he could not have added to his laurels or additional glory to his name as a gallant soldier and glorious patriot.

RESOLVED, That in their hour of bereavement, when bowed down with grief inexpressable, we assure his widow and family that every comrade shares with them their loss and great sorrow and extends sincere condolence.

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the records of this Post for future reference; that a copy be sent to his widow and family and a copy be furnished by our adjutant to each of the Pontiac papers for publication.

R. M. JOHN,
S. M. WITT,
O. F. AVERY,
Committee.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

PRESBYTERIAN BOARD PAYS TRIBUTE TO MEMORY OF W. H. JENKINS.

Resolutions of respect were adopted by the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of the city of Pontiac at a meeting held Monday, November 12, 1917.

WHEREAS, On Friday, October 12, 1917, the Supreme God in His infinite wisdom has removed from among us our beloved friend, William H. Jenkins; and,

WHEREAS, Our deceased associate had been a member of this board of trustees for nearly forty years and had served as its secretary for thirty-five years, faithfully and religiously performing his duties in this capacity in such a manner as to inspire the greatest respect, not only of his co-workers and the membership of our church, but the entire community as well, we now pay this humble tribute to his life and character, recognizing his high purposes and lofty ideals which impressed themselves upon everyone who had come to know him;

RESOLVED, That the congregation of the Presbyterian Church and the community at large has lost a staunch friend. A true Christian gentleman has been taken from our midst, whom in our sorrow we must not consider lost but who having nobly completed his earthly labors has now entered into a higher field of service;

RESOLVED, That we extend to his bereaved wife and family our sincerest sympathy and at the same time assure them that his loss is not all their own, but ours as well.

RESOLVED, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his bereaved wife, a copy be spread upon the record of this board of trustees for future reference and a copy given to the local newspaper for publication.

(Signed) Board of Trustees, First Presbyterian Church,
B. R. THOMPSON, *President*.
C. M. MCCARLIE, *Secretary*.